

Statement of Senator Dianne Feinstein on Ambassador Negroponte's Appointment To Be Director of National Intelligence

February 17, 2005

"As a member of the Intelligence Committee, it is my intention to support Ambassador Negroponte's appointment to be the first Director of National Intelligence. The ambassador has a strong and forceful reputation as a credible and strong individual. I believe that these talents are vitally necessary in the new Director of National Intelligence.

I also believe that it is helpful that he comes to this position from outside of the intelligence community. It is fair to say that there are significant turf issues and significant technical issues and I believe that Ambassador Negroponte brings the particular talents to bear: his forcefulness, his credibility, his background and his strength, which will enable him to chart the strategy for our new intelligence agencies, make the necessary changes, oversee the budgets and see that structural and personnel changes are made as necessary to enable our intelligence community to work effectively in the world of non-state terror."